

ABSTRACT

A videoconferencing system uses a stand-alone video/audio transcapture module with an H.323-compliant broadband Internet connection through a server to conduct real-time videoconferencing. The system provides directory service to work behind Network Address Translation systems by means of backend servers that use Lightweight Directory Assistance Protocol servers to map numbers to IP addresses. The system further incorporates an automatic firmware update service to provide updated firmware updates each time the transcapture module is rebooted. The system also provides an automatic commercial download service to provide module specific bannerization capability, so that each transcapture module can receive directed commercials.